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CONFIDENTIAL PRP D-14

PALESTINE REFUGEE PROBLEM:

Note on a Major Irrigation Project for the Jordan Valley in Transjordan

This paper was prepared by a British national who formerly served as Director of Development in Transjordan. It outlines a project which excludes high-cost reservoir works and finds its water supply within the natural flow of the Yarmuk and within the flow of the Jordan at its outlet from the Sea of Galilee with the storage element which the latter provides under control at its outlet. Implementation of the project would provide for an area of 300,000 dunams, on which approximately 100,000 persons could be settled, at a cost of about £ 2,600,000 (1938 estimate). The paper outlines the problem of water rights. It then recommends several restricted lines of inquiry which might be pursued unilaterally by Transjordan prior to clarification of the political difficulties involved in implementing the ultimate project involving a free-flow system drawing water at high level from the Yarmuk and the Sea of Galilee.

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